LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session between a̶ said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, <u>wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager,</u> said selecting of a service provider further based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

2.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that selects a service provider that is capable of performing a type of service on an item of content from among a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content i̶s̶ <u>are</u> identified during a session between a <u>said</u> client device and said service location manager, wherein said type of service is s̶a̶i̶d̶ identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further

selecting said service provider based on service session information if said service session

information has been received.

3.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored

therein for performing a method for selecting a media service provider based on static resource

information comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result

is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session between

a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, wherein said selecting a service provider is

performed by said service location manager, said selecting of a service provider further based on

service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

4.   (Currently Amended) A computer useable medium storage medium having stored

thereon computer program codes that when executed by a processor useable code

embodied therein for causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of content before a service result

is provided to a client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session between

a said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, <u>wherein said selecting a service provider is</u>

<u>performed by said service location manager,</u> said selecting of a service provider further based on

service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said type of service on said item of content.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider for

streaming media based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming

content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of streaming

content is identified during a session between a said client device and a service location

manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, <u>wherein said selecting a service provider is</u>

<u>performed by said service location manager,</u> said selecting of a service provider further based on

service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said service on said item of streaming content.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

15.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing streaming media content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that selects a service provider that is capable of performing a type of service on an item of content from among a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content is are identified during a session between a said client device and said service location manager, wherein said type of service is said identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further selecting said service provider based on service session information if said service session information has been received.

16.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by said service manager.

17.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 16 wherein said static service

provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory

resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content

addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose

hardware.

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17 wherein said special purpose

hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said service session

information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19 initiation and termination

information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous

sessions.

21.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17 wherein said dispatch history

comprises information concerning content length.

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said streaming content is

serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

23.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 22 wherein non streamed content is

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generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored therein for performing a method for selecting a streaming media service provider based on static resource information comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming content before a service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session between said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager, said selecting of a service provider further based on service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said service provider performs said type of service on said item of streaming content.

26.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

27.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 26 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

28.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

29.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

30.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

31.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

32.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

33.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 32 wherein non streamed

content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

34.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said

streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non

streamed file.

35.   (Currently Amended) A computer ~~useable medium~~ storage medium having stored

thereon computer program codes that when executed by a processor ~~useable code embodied~~

~~therein for~~ causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service to be performed on an item of streaming content before a

service result is provided to a client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified

during a session between ~~a~~ said client device and a service location manager;

selecting a service provider from a plurality of service providers based on static service

provider information and static network information, wherein said selecting a service provider is

performed by said service location manager, said selecting of a service provider further based on

service session information if said service session information has been received; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider, wherein said

service provider performs said type of service on said item of streaming content.

36.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said static service

provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

37.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said static service

provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory

resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content

addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose

hardware.

38.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 37 wherein said special purpose

hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

39.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said service session

information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

40.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 39 wherein said initiation and

termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in

previous sessions.

41.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said session dispatch

history comprises information concerning content length.

42.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said streaming content

is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

43.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 42 wherein non streamed content is

generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

     44.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 43 wherein said streaming content

is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.